

October 13, 1988

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Holland Shepherd, Reclamation Soils Specialist *HWS*

RE: Site Inspection, Happy Jack Mine, Atlas Minerals,
M/037/024, San Juan County, Utah

I met on October 12, 1988 with several representatives of Atlas Minerals, at the Happy Jack Mine. These individuals were Carl Dixon, Joe Bierschied, and Skeet Lambert. Mr. Bierschied is interested in assuming the Happy Jack site from Atlas Minerals and was along on this visit to talk about the reclamation responsibilities he would assume.

The Happy Jack mine is located only 1/4 mile from the Butt Mining Goneaway Mine site. The Happy Jack Mine is a disturbance of approximately 10 acres consisting of several portals, some large waste dumps and a large, flat pad area that was the working area of the mine site. The disturbed area that Atlas Minerals has committed to reclaiming is outlined in yellow on the map found in the mine file.

Mr. Bierschied spoke to me about doing one of two things in regard to reclaiming the mine site if he were to assume responsibility for this operation. One thing would be to reclaim the site down to the 5 acre and under status and refile under a Small Operators Permit. The second thing would be to regrade the entire site, and reducing the bond to a revegetation bond only, and then assume the lesser bond.

Mr. Bierschied and I spoke of what he would do if he were to reclaim the site down to a five acre and under status. The large waste dumps at the north side of the site would be left, for the most part, unreclaimed except for the top. Mr. Bierschied indicated that he would reclaim the tops of these dumps and grade them to a rounded configuration. He would do this by using a backhoe to go down some 8 - 10 feet on the outslope of each dump and pull the material back up to the top, then it would be graded out. Mr. Bierschied will be reclaiming all the portals on the site except for a couple that he would like to leave open, located on the west side of the site. For the most part, the highwall would be left in place. Fill material will be placed at the toe of the highwalls. A soil stockpile does exist on the site; this stockpile would be used in it's entirety to cover graded areas of the site.


Page 2
Happy Jack Mine
M/037/024
October 13, 1988

I indicated to Mr. Bierschied that in order to allow him to file under a Small Operators Permit, the area would have to left for at least one year before the Division could make a determination that the revegetation effort was satisfactory. He advised me that Atlas was not in a hurry to make this transfer and that if we had to wait a year, that would be satisfactory.

jb
cc: Lowell Braxton
MN4/46-47

August 13, 1987

TO: File

FROM: Frank J. Filas, Reclamation Engineer 

RE: Site Inspection, Happy Jack Mine, M/037/024

On July 28, 1987, Ron Daniels and I inspected the Happy Jack Mine. It is located atop a mesa south of Hite. The Happy Jack is a very old copper-uranium mine that was mined by surface methods and then later by underground adits. The surface area is bowl-shaped with 75-foot highwalls. A half dozen portals are located around the perimeter of the bowl. Those on the west side are caved. The remainder appear to be adequately guarded. There is one metal building (on skids), and a truck with a portable fan onsite.

The Happy Jack has been inactive since January 1983. There does not appear to be any erosional problems with the regraded drainage through the center of the permit area. The site is relatively clean, and no safety problems were observed.

clj
cc: L. Braxton
R. Daniels
1243R/26

